

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A connector assembly for attaching a hardware component and a trim panel to a vehicular structure, said connector assembly comprising:

a shank including a head end and an anchor end for securing the hardware component to the vehicular structure; and

a head operatively coupled to said shank, wherein said head is detachable from said shank in both a frangible and a non-frangible manner, and wherein said head includes a trim retaining end for securing the trim panel, a shank engaging end, and a break neck therebetween, and further wherein said trim retaining end breaks from said head at said break neck when a load is applied to said head,

and further wherein said shank engaging end of said head includes a keyed portion and said head end of said shank includes a shoulder and defines a recess to receive and decouably lock said keyed portion of said shank engaging end of said head thereby providing the non-frangible detachment.

2. (Original) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said shank further includes a chamber extending between said head end and said anchor end.

3. (Original) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 2, wherein said chamber is threaded.

4. (Original) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 3, further including a screw threadedly inserted in said chamber.

5. (Original) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 4, wherein said shank includes a bulbous portion that expands radially outward when said screw is received in said chamber.

6. (Original) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said head further includes an upper disc and a lower disc, and wherein said trim panel includes at least one boss for receiving said upper disc while said lower disc abuts a lower surface of said boss.

7. (Currently amended) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said keyed portion of said head ~~includes~~ ~~is operatively coupled to said shank by~~ a plurality of prongs received within a corresponding number of recesses formed in said head end of said shank.

8. (Canceled)